

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CITY OF WHEATON 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the incorporation of Wheaton, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

In 1836, the vibrant community of Wheaton found its roots when Erastus Gary and brothers Warren and Jesse Wheaton purchased a plot of land from the federal government. They quickly set about building a town and, through the enterprising spirit that continues to characterize Wheaton to this day, secured a rail line through the center of the town. By 1859, the City of Wheaton was officially incorporated.

In the years since its humble founding, Wheaton has become a center of government and commerce, serving as the Seat of DuPage County and home to businesses, professionals, educational institutions, publishing houses, churches and organizations that have had an impact all over the world. Throughout the State of Illinois and across the nation, Wheaton has developed a reputation as a wholesome place to raise a family. In fact my wife Elizabeth and I are proud to call Wheaton home and the place where we are raising our four children.

On the occasion of this 150th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Wheaton's legacy of growth and prosperity and to look ahead to the opportunities facing our city and our nation. Today both marks 150 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Wheaton Mayor Michael Gresk, the Wheaton City Council and the citizens of Wheaton, and in wishing them happiness on this special occasion.

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE CAMPBELL AS THE WALTON COUNTY 2009 SUPPORT PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Michelle Campbell, Walton County's 2009 Support Person of the Year.

There is more to a school than the primary educators and administrators. To be successful, a school relies on the efforts of countless other individuals whose unique skills and contributions enable the rest of the school to function. One such individual is Michelle Campbell,

an Exceptional Student Educational Paraprofessional.

For the past fifteen years Ms. Campbell has dedicated herself to helping children in the community realize and reach their full potential. Working with small groups of students, Ms. Campbell provides instructional support to those students with disabilities while also providing much needed assistance for teachers. Through these small groups, Ms. Campbell focuses on strengthening and reinforcing reading and math skills. It is also through this setting that Ms. Campbell has come to form close bonds with her students. Her support and praise brings much needed encouragement and propels her students towards academic success.

In addition to time spent within the classroom, Ms. Campbell spends hours tutoring students during after-school hours. She is also an active member of her school's reading carnival and family science night. As highlighted by her work ethic and reinforced by the praise she receives from both teachers and students, Ms. Campbell is a valuable asset to Walton County. The First District of Florida is greatly indebted to her service and is honored to have her as one of its own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Ms. Michelle Campbell on this outstanding achievement, the Walton County 2009 Support Person of the Year.

HONORING JOHN D. DINGELL FOR HOLDING THE RECORD AS THE LONGEST SERVING MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 154, a resolution honoring my good friend and colleague, Representative JOHN DINGELL for becoming the longest-serving member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

A true public servant, Mr. DINGELL has devoted more than half of his life to the service of our nation both in his home state of Michigan and in the United States Congress. Today marks the 54th year of his commitment and dedication to the American people and a day when Mr. DINGELL has surpassed every other member of the House of Representatives with the longest tenure in House history.

Over the past half-century, Mr. DINGELL has proudly championed the rights of workers from being a longtime supporter of equal pay for equal work, to supporting collective bargaining rights. However, he is perhaps best known for his vigorous approach to government oversight.

As an icon serving on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Mr. DINGELL fought

for environmental protections and defended consumer rights. He displayed great leadership and stewardship in ushering through important pieces of legislation such as the landmark Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the Clean Air Act of 1990. Additionally, Mr. DINGELL has consistently sought to uncover government corruption and waste, ensuring American tax dollars are spent wisely and transparently.

Today, I proudly recognize Mr. DINGELL's distinguished service to the United States. He has been and will continue to be a role model to me and hundreds of others in this chamber. I am honored to serve with him and wish him well on this historic day.

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the conference report accompanying H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Investment Act.

This jobs creation package comes at a critical time for our nation as we face one of the greatest economic crises in our country's history. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in my home state of Texas climbed from 4.2 percent in December 2007 to 6 percent in December 2008. The employment situation has grown worse in 2009 as major employers across the country continue to cut tens of thousands of jobs. These dire circumstances require swift and bold action by the Congress to create jobs, jumpstart growth, and transform our economy to compete in the 21st century.

I support the American Recovery and Investment Act because it will help businesses create jobs and will allow families to afford their bills while laying a foundation for future economic growth in key areas like health care, clean energy, education, and infrastructure. This \$789 billion compromise package will create or save 3.5 million jobs nationwide over the next two years. This comes down to an estimated 269,000 jobs in Texas and 7,600 jobs in my congressional district. The jobs created will be in a range of industries from education to healthcare, with over 90 percent in the private sector.

The tax cuts in the legislation will place more money in American workers' wallets by providing direct tax relief to 95 percent of workers. This refundable tax credit of up to \$400 per person or \$800 per couple will provide much needed tax relief and help stimulate our economy.

By offering an additional \$100 per month in unemployment insurance benefits, this bill will help the 677,000 workers in Texas who have lost their jobs in this recession as well as provide extended unemployment benefits to an additional 125,000 laid-off Texas workers.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

I am particularly pleased that this legislative package will provide funding to modernize schools in Texas. According to preliminary estimates, El Paso-area school districts could receive tens of millions of dollars in funding for renovation projects, Title I grants to help disadvantaged children, and grants for special education. Our schools have been neglected for far too long and this important funding will ensure that our children have the labs, classrooms, and libraries that are necessary to learn and compete in a global economy.

The legislation's huge investment in our nation's roads, bridges, and mass transit systems will greatly assist several projects in my district that have gone without necessary repairs and upgrades for years. By investing in these neglected projects we will create good jobs as well as make much needed improvements to our nation's infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this economic recovery bill that will help average Americans, as well as cash-strapped state and local governments, weather this current economic downturn.

TRIBUTE TO HON. BETTY J.
LESTER, J.S.C.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to recognize the Honorable Betty J. Lester for her many years of service to the community and to congratulate her upon her historic retirement from the Essex County Superior Court bench. I would like to express my personal thanks and voice the gratitude of the many people for whom she has paved the path and set standards of excellence.

Judge Lester holds the distinction of being the first African American female judge in Essex County and the second African American female judge to be appointed to the superior court bench in New Jersey. As a trail-blazing woman of color, Judge Lester has built a great legacy in her 32 years of service to the city of Newark, Essex County, and the State of New Jersey.

Judge Lester has served on many committees of the Supreme Court including the Committee to Study New Jersey Bar Admission, the Committee on Municipal Courts, the Task Force on Women in the Courts, the Task Force on Municipal Improvement, and the Task Force on Minority Concerns. She has been a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association, the Essex County Bar Association, and the National Association of Women Judges. On the national level, Judge Lester was appointed as a commissioner for the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that Judge Lester is an excellent role model for women and minorities in the law profession. She will leave a lasting impact on those who were fortunate enough to benefit from her guidance. I am pleased to join all those in attendance in wishing her a wonderful retirement.

HONORING WANDA ELLIS MITCHELL ON HER SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Mrs. Wanda Ellis Mitchell on a lifetime of work and dedication to the Baytown community and the people of Texas.

Mrs. Mitchell spent the past 14 years of her life serving the city of Baytown as the director of the Baytown Historical Museum. Under Mrs. Mitchell's leadership the Baytown Historical Museum has added many exciting collections given by volunteer donors, including from one of her former junior high students, the grandson of the great Ashbel Smith of Texas. Even though he had been asked by the University of Texas at Austin to acquire his grandfather's historical belongings, he declined and chose to give those historical belongings of his grandfather's to Mrs. Mitchell to preserve and display them in the Baytown Historical Museum.

Mrs. Mitchell has lived in Baytown, TX, since the age of 1. She served the community in many different ways; among others, she served the community as a teacher and director of Baytown Historical Museum. The City of Baytown greatly appreciates her service and dedication to the community. Her absence in the community will be greatly missed, and I know the community wishes her all the best when she moves with her husband Seth to Corpus Christi to live close to her daughter.

It is with great pleasure that I recognize Mrs. Wanda Ellis Mitchell for her service to the Baytown Historical Museum and the city of Baytown.

IN RECOGNITION OF AMANDA
LAGERGREN UPON HER
ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amanda Lagergren, who has received Escambia County, Florida's Teacher of the Year Award for 2010. Her passion and dedication prove that teachers can truly make a difference in the lives of their students, and I am proud to honor such an admirable leader of our local community.

Ms. Lagergren began her teaching career at Edgewater Elementary in 2006 as a 5th Grade General Education Teacher. While maintaining her usual teaching duties for class, she has gone above and beyond by working both inside and outside of the classroom to better her students' lives. As Grade Level Chair for the 5th Grade, Ms. Lagergren ensures that her teachers have everything necessary to provide the best education to their students. Her membership on the Continuous Improvement Model Team and Accelerated Reading Committee highlights her focus on improving the

reading abilities of Edgewater Elementary's pupils. An expertise in classroom technology makes her a valuable asset to other teachers, and she recently began mentoring new educators on effective teaching methods and classroom models. For the past three years, Ms. Lagergren has inspired both her students and her colleagues with her dedication to teaching, and she is to be admired for her passion.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to thank Ms. Lagergren for her public service to the students and community of Northwest Florida. Vicki and I wish her and her family best wishes for continued success.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
LAKE WORTH COMMUNITY HIGH
SCHOOL DEBATE TEAM

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the debate team of Lake Worth Community High School in Lake Worth, Florida. The team recently competed in a 22-school tournament and took home five awards. Pierre Dorsainvil won best presiding officer; Shermeeka Scott, best speaker and best presiding officer; Gia Cerease, original oratory; and Jennifer Price, first overall for declamation.

I am very proud of these fine young people for their skill as debaters and for the many hours of hard work and dedication that resulted in their supremacy over so many other schools. I am delighted, though not surprised, to know that a school in my district is providing an excellent education in the fine art of oratory. It is a skill that my esteemed colleagues and I value very highly, and I hope that some of these talented students will join us in Congress some day.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF RICHARD AND
CONSTANCE SMITHGALL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the long-standing and happy marriage of two of my constituents, Richard and Constance Smithgall. This March 9 they will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a ceremony at Weeki Wachee State Park in Hernando County, Florida.

Richard and Constance first took their wedding vows at the Grace Baptist Church in Binghamton, New York on March 7, 1959. They have since moved to Spring Hill, where they have lived for the past ten years. The happy couple enjoys their new life in Florida, where Constance has retired from her job and Richard continues to work part time at Home Depot.

During the ceremony commemorating their 50th anniversary, the Smithgalls will have

many of their family and friends attend the event. They have two wonderful children, Richard Jr. and Joi Kneiss, as well as two grandchildren, Justin Richard Kneiss and Courtney Smithgall. The entire extended Smithgall family is looking forward to the anniversary and is very proud of Richard and Constance for making it 50 years together.

Madam Speaker, the union of two souls is a wonderful moment and one to be celebrated by friends and loved ones. It is a sign of true love and affection for two people to make it half a century living in holy matrimony. I want to congratulate Richard and Constance Smithgall on their 50th anniversary and wish them the best of luck as they spend the rest of their lives together.

RECOGNIZING GLENDA PAUL-ALES
AS THE WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
2009 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Glenda Paul-Ales, Walton County, Florida's 2009 Teacher of the Year.

For the past eighteen years, Glenda Paul-Ales has captivated students at Walton Middle School in Walton County, Florida. In her classroom, learning occurs in a variety of ways, as Ms. Paul-Ales seizes upon every opportunity to generate a lesson. Beyond the curriculum that Ms. Paul-Ales assigns lays the doctrine that governs her teaching: "there is no one right way to teach all students." It is thus, through her dynamic integration of technology, class projects, and group discussions that Ms. Paul-Ales is able to propel her students to academic excellence.

In addition to being named Teacher of the Year for Walton County, Florida, Ms. Paul-Ales has received numerous other awards and recognitions. She is a two-time winner of the Walton Middle School Teacher of the Year award and serves as the school's Professional Development Chair. Ms. Paul-Ales is also a Literacy Leadership Team member and serves as the Department Chair for Science in the 7th grade. All of these titles highlight Ms. Paul-Ales's outstanding teaching capabilities and emphasize her engaging personality.

The title of Teacher of the Year is an immense honor and is evidence of the greatness Ms. Paul-Ales has achieved. Beyond the title lies Ms. Paul-Ales's dedication and devotion, to not only her students, but to the entire community. Her teaching skills and affable personality have influenced many and pushed countless students to a higher level of academic achievement. Ms. Paul-Ales's outstanding accomplishments have distinguished her as one of the great teachers in Northwest Florida, and the First District of Florida is honored to have her as one of their own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Glenda Paul-Ales on this outstanding achievement and for her exemplary service in the Walton County School District.

IN HONOR OF THOMAS JEFFERSON
HIGH SCHOOL'S "STREET TEAM"

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the students of Thomas Jefferson High School in Dallas, Texas for their commitment to reducing the number of "cheese" users at school. "Cheese" is a deadly combination of black tar heroin and over-the-counter drugs. The addictive combination has taken the lives of numerous teenagers in the Dallas area in the past few years.

Since the first case of cheese was discovered at Thomas Jefferson High School in 2005, it has been considered the epicenter of the cheese epidemic and garnered national attention for the issue. However, a group of students—known as the "Street Team"—decided to take action against this deadly drug trend in their school. These students took the initiative to create and implement a program that catered to the specific environment at their school. With the support of the Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (GDCADA) and the Dallas Independent School District (DISD), they embarked on a multi-faceted social norms campaign to educate their peers and change the perception of cheese usage on campus. By correcting the perception of cheese use, they were able to also change behavior.

I applaud the effort of the "Street Team," the students of Thomas Jefferson and the faculty who have supported them to reduce cheese use on campus.

TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS MUSE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of Phyllis Muse of Boone, Iowa, who has received the Brown Award for outstanding service at Boone County Hospital.

The Brown Award was established by Weldon J. Brown in honor of his parents Everett C. Brown and Eunice D. Brown. Boone County Hospital recognizes the outstanding services and accomplishments of one of its employees each year with the Brown Award.

Phyllis was nominated by anonymous co-workers to receive the award. She has worked for Boone County Hospital since 1977 as a nurse and now currently as the Boone County Hospital specialty clinic director.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Phyllis Muse for her outstanding service to Boone County Hospital. It is an honor to represent Phyllis in the U.S. Congress, and I wish her continued success and happiness in serving her community.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1,
AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REIN-
VESTMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, it is essential that our Nation's ports have a reliable funding stream for vital projects that are "ready to go" in ports around the nation. The Maritime Administration has identified more than \$1.5 billion in immediate opportunities to fund ready-to-go port landside projects. Ports are a key component of our national intermodal transportation system. MARAD has conservatively estimated that funding \$1.5 billion in ready to go projects will add 80,000 direct and indirect jobs to the economy. These port projects are essential to our ports fulfilling their roles in our national defense, transportation, commerce, and homeland security systems. All other transportation modes, including highways, transit, rail, aviation, and ferries have dedicated funding in the Transportation Infrastructure sections of H.R. 1. Ports do not have such a dedicated source of funding. However, I want to state for the record that ports are eligible for funds in the \$1.5 billion discretionary competitive grant funding made available by this bill to the Secretary of Transportation. In addition ports are eligible for funds under the Surface Transportation formula funds made available to States under this bill.

Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of Transportation, working with MARAD, should ensure that ports, like rail, transit, highways and aviation also have a secure stream of funding for much needed "ready to go" intermodal infrastructure investments. Ports all over the country, including in my own State, are ready to put thousands of people to work immediately on vital port infrastructure projects.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the entire House, indeed the entire Congress agrees that it won't do much good to have improved highways, rail, and air transportation if our ports are crumbling, overcrowded, and outdated.

LEGISLATION TO CODIFY TITLE 41,
U.S. CODE, REGARDING PUBLIC
CONTRACTS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, Ranking Member LAMAR SMITH and I are introducing a bill to codify into positive law as title 41, United States Code, certain general and permanent laws related to public contracts. This bill was prepared by the Office of the Law Revision Counsel, as part of its functions under 2 U.S.C. § 285(b).

This bill is substantially identical to H.R. 4779, which the Committee on the Judiciary approved in last Congress, updated to incorporate a few enactments that took place after the earlier bill was prepared, and to incorporate a few technical clarifications suggested by interested parties.

This bill is not intended to make any substantive changes in the law. As is typical with the codification process, a number of non-substantive revisions are made, including the reorganization of sections into a more coherent overall structure, but these changes are not intended to have any substantive effect.

As the bill was already subject to extensive agency and public review in the last Congress, as well as in the Congress preceding, the Committee plans to report it to the House promptly and to seek its consideration on the floor as soon as practicable.

The bill, along with a detailed section-by-section explanation of the bill, can be found on the Law Revision Counsel website at <http://uscode.house.gov/cod>. Interested parties are invited to submit comments to Ken Paretzky, Senior Counsel, Office of the Law Revision Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives, H2-304 Ford House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515-6711, (202) 226-9061, as well as to the Committee.

TRIBUTE TO JOETTA REDLIN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Joetta Redlin. Joetta is the Winneshiek Medical Center's director of Nutrition Services. She is also a 35 year member and the current association president of the Iowa Dietetic Association.

Joetta has received the Annual Medallion Award, the highest achievement award offered by the Iowa Dietetic Association. She has demonstrated leadership above and beyond job requirements, and has made excellent contributions to the dietetic profession.

Redlin is also the first renal dietitian specializing in kidney disorders, marking her as an expert. She has mentored hundreds of students through the University of Iowa Dietetic mentoring program and has published numerous articles on renal nutrition.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Joetta Redlin for her outstanding achievements. I consider it an honor to represent Joetta in Congress, and wish her the best in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, on February 4, 2009, due to attendance at the Spokane Ag Expo Forum I was unable to return in time and missed three votes.

Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on H. Res. 82 raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking by establishing January 2009 as National Stalking Awareness Month, "yes" on H. Res 103 supporting the goals and ideals of National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week, and "yes" on H.R. 559, the Fair, Accu-

rate, Secure, and Timely Redress Act (vote numbers 47, 48, 49).

COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND RESPONSE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am re-introducing the Community Protection and Response Act to eliminate confusion in responding to disasters following homeland security events.

One of the major lessons learned in the aftermath of September 11, 2001 is that timely response is critical. Any delay complicates short-, medium-, and long-term recovery efforts. Sadly, many of the lessons that we have learned have gone without an appropriate response.

In response to the attacks of September 11 for example, Congress took a series of actions to bring relief to affected areas. These legislative actions along with existing statutes, including the Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Act and the Disaster Mitigation Act, formed the framework for the federal government's response. The magnitude of the attacks and the need for Congress to take action before certain relief could be delivered added to the challenge of the recovery efforts and exposed critical weaknesses in federal authority to respond.

The Community Protection and Response Act would amend the Stafford Act along with other statutes and would give the President a series of policy options to choose from following a homeland security event. A homeland security event is defined as an event that poses a significant risk to the security of people and property and is in such a magnitude that effective response is beyond the scope and capability of the affected state and local government. Many of these options are based on congressional action following September 11th or other policy suggestions in reports by the Congressional Research Service, the Government Accountability Office and the New York branch of the Federal Reserve. Specifically, in the event of a homeland security event, the President can provide grants for lost tax revenue, aid to school systems, and assistance to medical facilities and utility companies. The bill also establishes guidelines to ensure the public health of area residents and disaster workers.

This bill is an important failsafe and preventative measure that will ensure America is prepared to respond to any homeland security event in the future.

TRIBUTE TO JOE FRISBIE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of a great personal friend to myself and countless citizens of Iowa and Iowa's law enforcement community, Joe Frisbie, Chief of Police of Sioux City, Iowa. His

dedication and commitment to protecting the citizens of his community is appreciated and unparalleled.

For the last 41 years, Chief Frisbie has served Sioux City faithfully and honorably. He was appointed as a Police Officer in December 1967, promoted to Sergeant in 1975, promoted to Lieutenant in 1983, promoted to Captain in 1986 and was appointed Chief of Police in 1997.

Chief Frisbie has many career accomplishments which include being a founder of the Tri-State Drug Task Force and appointment to the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council by the governor of Iowa. He taught Police Administration for 11 years at Bellevue University and taught Criminal Investigation at the University of South Dakota for 23 years.

In 1998, I invited Chief Frisbie to be a panelist at the Northern Iowa Communication Conference in Storm Lake, Iowa to discuss the growing methamphetamine problem and various other law enforcement related issues. I also enjoyed working with him on starting up the Tri-State Meth Training Center, now known as the National Training Center. The original idea for this center was to provide training for three states, but its reputation for excellence brought law enforcement, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, from around the nation to its doors.

Chief Frisbie's service on the police force has made a lasting impact on the communities he has served, and his services will be missed. While he is known for being the ultimate watchdog for the people in Siouxland, it is his commitment and dedication to his family, including his wife Peggy and daughters Katrina, Ann and Emily, that is most admirable.

I commend Chief of Police Joseph C. Frisbie for his many years of loyalty and service to protecting Iowans. It has been an immense honor to represent Chief Frisbie in the United States Congress, and I wish all the best to him as he embarks on his new journey.

LAVADA DILLARD

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Black History Month, I want to continue recognizing African Americans from throughout Georgia's 11th Congressional District who have had a major impact on their community.

Lavada Dillard is an outstanding example of a courageous woman. As a student in 1963 of the historical Main High School of Rome, Georgia, an all-black segregated high school when she attended, she, at the age of 16, and 62 other high school students carried out a successful downtown lunch counter sit-in demonstration asking for the right to be served. She was one of the 62 students jailed for 5 days for this act. Today, Ms. Dillard states that this was a significant moment in her life as she was a part of paving the way for black citizens to have lawful access to public eating facilities, restrooms, and drinking fountains, nationwide.

Ms. Dillard did not stop her fight for equal rights for all people. She became a part of a

major voting campaign in Rome, after the Voting Rights Act was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1965. At that time, few African Americans were registered voters, and they had very little political power, both locally and nationally. She began working as an activist in human rights efforts with the Black Coordinating Committee during the era of integration of school systems in Rome. She became Rome's first black legal secretary in 1971 and eventually managed the firm's Rome office.

Inspired by her activism and committed to justice for all, she furthered her works in the legal system with Georgia State Legal Services. She has worked in the education system at East Rome Junior High School as school secretary. She served 9 years as a lobbyist for the Georgia Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities and she has been a board member and executive planner for the Northwest Georgia Minority Business Association. She has served on the Georgia State Board of Elections to select delegates to the National Presidential Convention.

She has been twice awarded for her works as advocate and activist by the Martin Luther King Diversity Class of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In 2007, she was instrumental in obtaining a proclamation from the city of Rome for the dedication ceremony for a downtown garden honoring the demonstrators of the Civil Rights Movement of 1963 called "Freedom Garden."

She compiled the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Rome to become part of the permanent history of the archives of her community as well as the "Freedom on Film" series at the University of Georgia. Her works are currently on display in the Rome area history museum as part of their permanent Civil Rights exhibit. Today, her speaking engagements take her to churches, schools, group youth homes, and youth detention centers—taking the message of equality across color lines and religious sectors.

Lavada Dillard's life has been devoted to fighting for equality for all people—regardless of race or religion. She has been an advocate for the disabled and the underprivileged. She is an example for others to follow, and I am proud that she is a citizen of the 11th Congressional District of Georgia. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Lavada Dillard for her commitment to the betterment of her community, our great State of Georgia, and the United States of America.

PASSING ALONG CONSTITUENT CONCERNS ABOUT THE "STIMULUS"

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring to the floor my constituents' opposition to the Economic Stimulus Package recently signed into law.

The American people are hurting. Too many jobs have been lost, and too many hard working Americans are worried about their future. Every day I receive calls from Arkansans opposed to Congress recklessly throwing around billions of dollars in an attempt to spend our

way out of this crisis by running headlong into more debt.

The American people do need action; but responsible, focused action that will create jobs and return tax dollars to working Americans immediately. This is the time-proven and fastest way to truly stimulate our economy. We cannot afford, nor can our children afford, an \$800 billion mistake which gives too little attention to creating and saving jobs and securing our retirement savings. I can't say to the average Arkansan fearful of losing their job that this stimulus will save their jobs and help their lives—so it does not deserve our support.

I urge Congress to work harder and together for a focused, responsible bill that will save jobs, create jobs, and protect pensions.

TRIBUTE TO ELISABETH BRAVARD

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the goodwill of Elisabeth Bravard, a 19-year-old resident of Boone, Iowa. Elisabeth is traveling to Honduras for 6 months to work in an orphanage.

Elisabeth has been to Honduras once before with her church, Boone Open Bible Church. Seven members of the church spent one week working in an orphanage. Since the visit, Elisabeth has wanted to return to the country to continue her work as a philanthropist. Elisabeth, who graduated from The Salon Professional Academy, saved all her tips while working at the Academy and babysitting. She has also asked friends and family to help support her cause. While in Honduras, she will teach English and use her education as a hair stylist to give hair cuts to those who can't afford one.

Winston Churchill once said that "we make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give". Elisabeth shows great passion in helping those who are less fortunate. I applaud her generosity and am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in Congress join me in thanking Elisabeth Bravard for her generous service and wish her success during her journey.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following in regards to H.R. 1105.

Project Name: Banning Family Health Center.

Account: HRSA—Health facilities and services.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Inland Behavioral and Health Services, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1963 North 'E' Street, San Bernardino, CA 92405.

Description of Request: This funding will be used for the construction of a comprehensive

community health services center in Banning, California. The center will provide health service to low-income, uninsured adults, families and seniors in a rapidly growing area in need of health services.

Amount: \$714,000.

Project Name: Village of Childhelp West, Beaumont, CA.

Account: SAMHSA.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Merv Griffin Village of Child Help.

Address of Requesting Entity: PO Box 247, Beaumont, CA 92223.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to expand services at one of the nation's first residential treatment facilities dedicated to the healing treatment of severely abused and neglected children. Currently, the facility is operating at or over 100% capacity and has waiting lists of children from referral sources.

Amount: \$714,000.

Project Name: We Care San Jacinto.

Account: Innovation/Improvement (FIE).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: We Care San Jacinto, USA.

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 West First Street, San Jacinto, CA 92583.

Description of Request: This funding will be used to expand an already existing program which provides tutoring, homework assistance and after-school classes for low-income families at no cost. In conjunction with the local school district, We Care is aimed at helping children who are failing or are most at risk of failing to meet California State's student academic achievement standards. With numerous street gangs that are involved in criminal activity in the area of San Jacinto, the We Care tutoring program has attempted to positively influence those who might very well be inclined to drop out of school or not seek secondary education. Expanding the center will continue to improve the quality of life for the students of San Jacinto and for the entire community.

Amount: \$77,000.

Project Name: San Bernardino County Museum Hall of Geological Wonders.

Account: IMLS.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: County of San Bernardino, USA.

Address of Requesting Entity: 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, 5th Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415.

Description of Request: This funding will be used to assist in the completion of new exhibition space and to upgrade the care of the collection in the 12,000 sq. ft. Hall of Geological Wonders at the San Bernardino County Museum. Project goals include enhancing and updating exhibitions, modern museum collection care, diverse learning programs, and will provide greater opportunity for education and appreciation for regional and natural heritage at the San Bernardino County Museum.

Amount: \$333,000.

Project Name: San Bernardino and Riverside County Regional Fingerprint ID (CAL-ID).

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, CA.

Address of Requesting Entity: San Bernardino County, 655 East Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 and Riverside County, 4095 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA 92501.

Description of Request: This funding is for ongoing product development and purchase of mobile fingerprint identification devices and software. The Counties of Riverside and San

Bernardino County embarked on a joint venture to create a regional identification system designed to be shared by all law enforcement agencies in the 27,360 square mile jurisdiction. The system provides fingerprint, photo and DNA services to all public safety agencies including local police departments, district attorney, school districts, coroner and Sheriffs' Departments in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. It is also available to other state and federal law enforcement agencies that utilize these services on a routine basis.

Amount: \$1,925,000.

Project Name: San Bernardino FileNET Program.

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of San Bernardino.

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 North "D" Street, San Bernardino, CA 92418.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to upgrade to FileNET document imaging system to, which allows real time document uploads and viewing by the police department and the prosecutor's office. The system will speed up investigations and prosecutions in San Bernardino, a city ranked as one of the most dangerous in America.

Amount: \$400,000.

Project Name: East Valley Regional Crime Analysis System (COMPASS).

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Redlands.

Address of Requesting Entity: 35 Cajon Street, Redlands, CA 92373.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to expand the COMPASS (Community Mapping, Planning and Analysis for Safety Strategies) initiative to other communities in the Inland Empire region. COMPASS has expanded the role of crime mapping, data sharing and analysis within the East Valley region, leading the way in GPS, offender monitoring analysis, and processing shared data from local agencies in support of a state program.

Amount: \$425,000.

Project Name: California Gang Suppression Enforcement Teams.

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: California State Department of Justice.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4949 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95820.

Description of Request: The funding will be used to support the expansion of Gang Suppression Enforcement Teams to provide technical expertise to local law enforcement overwhelmed by gang violence. GSET identifies and attacks and gang's leadership, infrastructure and hierarchy, to completely disable a gang's operations and prevent it from reestablishing itself.

Amount: \$200,000.

Project Name: Criminal Information Sharing Alliance Network.

Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Criminal Information Sharing Alliance, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 101 Parkshore Drive, Suite 225, Folsom, CA 95630.

Description of Request: The funding will help the Criminal Information Sharing Alliance assist the State of California in its development, procurement and implementation of

state-of-the-art technologies that enhance the capabilities of the State's criminal intelligence investigation, enforcement and assessment centers through a southwest regional approach.

Amount: \$400,000.

Project Name: Ranchero Road Corridor Project.

Account: FHWA-Interstate Maintenance.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hesperia, CA.

Address of Requesting Entity: 9700 Seventh Ave., Hesperia, CA 92345.

Description of Request: Funding will help construct an interchange at Ranchero Road and I-15. The project will improve motorist circulation, reduce traffic congestion, and promote commerce. This project is eligible for Interstate Maintenance (IM) funding as the IM program provides funding for resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation and reconstruction work, including adding lanes to increase capacity, on most existing Interstate System routes. IM program requires 10% local match.

Amount: \$650,750.

Project Name: Potrero Boulevard/SR 60 Interchange.

Account: FHWA-Surface Transportation Program.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Beaumont, CA.

Address of Requesting Entity: 550 East 6th St., Beaumont, CA 92223.

Description of Request: The project, to engineer and construct the Potrero Boulevard/SR 60 interchange, will relieve congestion and improve safety at the Interstate 10 and SR 60 interchange. This project is Surface Transportation Program (STP) eligible as those program funds may be used to carry out projects involving construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, restoration, and operational improvements for highways. STP program requires 20% local match.

Amount: \$855,000.

Project Name: I-215 and University Parkway.

Account: FHWA—Interstate Maintenance.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of San Bernardino, CA.

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 N. D St., San Bernardino, CA 92346.

Description of Request: This project would construct a direct connector ramp from westbound University Parkway to southbound I-215. Constructing an additional southbound entrance ramp will provide the necessary relief for traffic on both sides on the interchange. The benefits include additional growth for Cal State San Bernardino, continued development of upper scale residential units in the vicinity of the university and continued commercial and industrial development on the west side of I-215. This project is eligible for IM funding as the IM program provides funding for resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation and reconstruction work, including adding lanes to increase capacity, on most existing Interstate System routes. IM program requires 10% local match.

Amount: \$508,250.

Project Name: Needles Highway.

Account: FHWA—Public Lands Highway Program.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: San Bernardino Associated Governments.

Address of Requesting Entity: 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715.

Description of Request: The realignment and widening of the Needles Highway will facilitate motorist safety, economic development, and future capacity needs due to increased freight movement from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Improvements to the highway are necessary for improved motorist safety as well as to reduce road flooding and wash-outs. Additionally, improvements are necessary as Needles Highway provides access to and from a number of Indian reservations in the area. This project is Public Lands Highway Program (PLHP) eligible as the PLHP program provides for transportation planning, research, engineering, and construction of highways, roads, and parkways and transit facilities within public lands, national parks, and Indian reservations. PLHP requires no local match.

Amount: \$3.8 million.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009.

Project Name: Mojave Water Agency Non-Native Plant Removal.

Account: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)—Conservation Operations.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mojave Water Agency.

Address of Requesting Entity: 22450 Headquarters Drive, Apple Valley, CA 92307.

Description of Request: \$667,000 will be provided to help complete a project to remove invasive weeds from the Mojave River area in cooperating with an ongoing local initiative. The Mojave River serves thousands of acres of federal land, including the Mojave National Preserve. Non-native plants are a constant threat to the Mojave River's ecosystem. Removing them will conserve vast amounts of water, which is a very precious resource in this area. Removal will also protect wildlife and dramatically reduce the risk of flood and fire.

TRIBUTE TO KYLE JONES

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Kyle Jones, a resident of Slater, Iowa. Kyle has been a custom applicator with Heartland Co-op for 22 years and was named Ag-Chem Operator of the Year during this year's Agriculture Retailers Association convention in Austin, Texas.

The Ag-Chem Operator of the Year Program was introduced in 2006. The program acknowledges the importance of having great operators and recognizes top professionals in the field. In his position, Kyle covers over 44,000 acres per year, treating every acre with care and professionalism, and his co-workers have stood by his reliability and hard work.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Kyle Jones on becoming Ag-Chem Operator of the Year and for being an outstanding professional in his industry. It is an honor to represent Kyle in Congress, and I wish him future happiness and success.

HONORING WILTON SIMPSON OF
TRILBY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilton Simpson, a distinguished member of the business community in Pasco County, Florida. Mr. Simpson has recently been named the 2009 recipient of the Lincoln Heritage Award in honor of his humanitarian services to the community and Pasco County and for his commitment to the principles practiced and espoused by one of our greatest Presidents, Abraham Lincoln.

A native of Lakeland, Florida, Mr. Simpson moved to Dade City with his family in 1978. He is a 1984 graduate of Pasco High School in Dade City and 1997 graduate of Pasco-Hernando Community College. A star football player in high school, Mr. Simpson turned down college scholarship opportunities to go into business instead. Today he is married and the father of two children, one son and one daughter.

Beginning his career in construction and asbestos removal, Mr. Simpson chose to enter into the chicken industry about 20 years ago. Founding Simpson Farms in Trilby, FL in 1996, he grew the egg production facility over the years, eventually expanding operations to include 210 acres and more than 1.25 million egg producing chickens. In 2005, Mr. Simpson diversified his holding, with the founding of Simpson Environmental Services, a company that specializes in asbestos removal.

In addition to his business interests, Mr. Simpson has given back to his local community. He serves on the Pasco County Housing Authority, is the current president of the Pasco County Farm Bureau and the Pasco County Fair Association, current chairman of the Board for East Pasco Habitat for Humanity, treasurer and board member of the Pasco Economic Development Council, treasurer and board member of the Dade City Chamber of Commerce, past chairman and current director of the Boys' and Girls' Club, past chairman of Premier Community Health Care, current member of the Pasco-Hernando Community College Board of Trustees, and is a charter member and director of Florida Traditions Bank.

Mr. Simpson coaches his son's little league team, is the 2005 recipient of the Small Business of the Year Award from the Pasco Economic Development Council and the 2008 recipient of the Business Leader of the Year Award from the Dade City Chamber of Commerce.

Madam Speaker, for all these reasons and many more, Wilton Simpson is being recognized with the 2009 Lincoln Heritage Award. He has epitomized the principles practiced by one of our finest Presidents, Abraham Lincoln, and by his actions has improved the lives and welfare of the entire Pasco County Community.

TRIBUTE TO PAT GILLILAND

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Pat Gilliland from her position as city clerk of Adel, Iowa.

For the past 25 years Pat has served the city of Adel as city clerk. During a city council meeting, Pat was honored for all her years of service. The Mayor also declared December as "Pat Gilliland Month" and gave her a key to the city.

The City of Adel and the surrounding community will certainly miss Pat's hard work and dedication to her job. I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Pat Gilliland for her many years of service to Adel, and I wish her happiness in her retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "WHATEVER IT TAKES TO REBUILD ACT OF 2008"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am reintroducing the "Whatever it Takes to Rebuild Act".

A disaster can leave the tax base of an affected community eroded, necessitating Federal assistance to pay for essential services. These essential services, including police, fire, and school personnel, are even more critical in the wake of a disaster. To aid communities, Congress created the Community Disaster Loan Program. While this program has worked with great success, there are two significant issues that need to be fixed. The first issue is that this assistance is delivered in the form of a loan and the second is that any loan is limited to \$5 million. Providing this aid as a loan can further delay the recovery of a local community and the \$5 million cap does not allow for adequate assistance for medium or large communities.

The "Whatever It Takes to Rebuild Act" would repeal the requirement that disaster affected communities repay the assistance they receive under the Community Disaster Loan Program. This legislation would permanently repeal the \$5 million cap on these loans, would make states eligible for this assistance, repeal the cap that limits loans to 25 percent of a municipalities operating expenses, and would provide this assistance as grants when the President waives the provisions for a catastrophic event. All of these provisions are aimed at giving the Federal Government the tools and flexibility we need to fully respond following a disaster.

This program was used most recently immediately following Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. While it was able to provide significant benefits, repayment requirements have raised significant hurdles for many recipient communities. In the wake of a disaster, the government should give American communities the financial assistance they need to get back on their feet with no strings attached. That is why

I am reintroducing the "Whatever It Takes to Rebuild Act."

TRIBUTE TO KEN SCHMITT

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Ken Schmitt. Ken is a Farmers National Company Accredited Farm Manager from Carroll, Iowa.

Ken has been named Farmers National Company's 2008 Farm Manager of the year. This award is given annually to one of Farmer Nationals 70 professional farm managers for excellence in performing management duties. The applicants were judged by a panel of agribusiness professionals and presented at the Farmers National Company's annual meeting.

Ken has worked for Farmers National Company since 1986 and due to his hard work has received many awards over the years.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Ken Schmitt for this great honor. I wish him health and happiness for the future.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act.

Requesting Member: Congressman SAM JOHNSON

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The City of McKinney, Texas

Address of Requesting Entity: 222 N. Tennessee, McKinney, Texas 75070.

Description of Request: \$300,000 in FY 2009 Department of Justice COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Interoperability funds to replace the City's Public Safety Radio System and to acquire interoperability capabilities.

The City of McKinney, Texas, was the fastest growing city with a population greater than 100,000 in the U.S. between 2000 and 2006, according to U.S. Census statistics released last year. With a population that has mushroomed from 38,700 to 121,000 in only ten years, resources for many important projects are strained. The current 800 MHz radio communications system, completed in 2001 when McKinney's population was half its current size, now has communications coverage deficiencies, particularly in the newer growth areas in southwestern McKinney. These "dead spots" are experienced by all City radio system users (Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works, etc.) and could compromise officer safety, citizen safety, and the ability to respond adequately in emergency situations. Efforts to

eliminate the coverage deficiencies through adjustments to the current system have had only limited success, and it has become evident that replacement of the system is crucial.

The rapid growth of Collin County dictates the need for interoperability in the event of a crisis. The adjacent cities of Frisco, Allen and Plano, as well as Collin County, are in the process of planning for upgrades to Project 25 digital technology. (Project 25 is a joint multi-phase effort of state, federal and local government with support from the Telecommunications Industry Association to provide unencumbered access to communications interoperability among law enforcement agencies.) The City of McKinney has engaged consultants to develop specifications for a three-to four-site Project 25 radio system to provide agencies with critical coverage improvements, interoperability, and expandability for continued growth.

Replacing the system with Project 25 digital radio system technology will maximize radio spectrum efficiency, ensure an open standard for non-proprietary equipment and interoperability, eliminate existing coverage deficiencies, and allow for continued growth to meet the City's ultimate buildout population. (McKinney's population will ultimately reach more than 300,000.) The Federal government has recognized the importance of interoperable communications equipment to meet the Nation's homeland security needs.

The total cost estimate for a three-site P25 radio system and equipment is \$5,938,000. This request is for \$300,000 in FY 2009 Federal funding to support McKinney's efforts. The City can get the project underway in 2009.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: Museums and Libraries.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The National Virtual Vietnam Archive.

Address of Requesting Entity: Texas Tech University, 19th and University Avenue, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Description of Request: \$571,000. The requested funding will be used to continue to develop and establish the Virtual Vietnam Archive, which is a digitized, online version of the Vietnam Archive. This multi-phased project is crucial in order for the extensive collection of the Vietnam Archive to be available to all Americans, and particularly to Vietnam veterans. The first phase focused on establishing the Virtual Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech. The second phase focused on expanding the Archive to include other private collections and non-government collections. The requested funding will be used for the final phase which focuses on including selected government documentary collections, which are not currently scheduled for digitization by the National Archives.

FY 2009 funding will be used to reproduce the documents contained in Record Group 472; ship documents to the Vietnam Archives at Texas Tech; digitize documents; and make documents freely available online to the American people and to researchers throughout the nation and around the globe.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL PETERSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Carol Peterson, a resident of Mason City, Iowa, from her position as CEO of Allied Purchasing.

Carol began working at Allied Purchasing in 1963 when males dominated the industry. However, she took the challenge head on, starting at Allied running the press and doing printing jobs. Within 10 years, she was promoted to account manager and received a business degree from North Iowa Area Community College. After receiving an additional promotion to sales manager, she received a graduate degree from Syracuse University in sales and marketing. In 1989, Carol became vice president of sales before becoming the company's third CEO in 1995—a position she held until her recent retirement.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Carol Peterson for her groundbreaking achievements and thanking her for her hard work and dedication to her job and community. I wish Carol the very best in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO NADIA TORKZADEH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the patronage of Nadia Torkzadeh, a resident of Waukee, Iowa who was named one of the top two youth volunteers in Iowa for 2009.

Nadia was selected to receive the Prudential Spirit of Community Award due to her extraordinary work as a philanthropist. More than 5,000 state youths were reviewed by an independent judging panel to receive the award. The judges made their decisions based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth. This is an extraordinary honor and Nadia will receive a bronze medallion at a local ceremony.

I know my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating the philanthropy and selflessness of Nadia Torkzadeh. I consider it an honor to represent in Congress young people like Nadia who make a difference in Iowa.

TRIBUTE TO JESSICA STAKEY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the patronage of Jessica Stakey, a resident of Kamrar, Iowa who was named one of the top two youth volunteers in Iowa for 2009.

Jessica was selected to receive the Prudential Spirit of Community Award due to her ex-

traordinary work as a philanthropist. More than 5,000 state youths were reviewed by an independent judging panel to receive the award. The judges made their decisions based on criteria such as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact and personal growth. This is an extraordinary honor and Jessica will receive a bronze medallion at a local ceremony.

I know my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating the philanthropy and selflessness of Jessica Stakey. I consider it an honor to represent in Congress young people like Jessica who make a difference in Iowa.

HONORING MR. REAGAN LEE

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reagan Lee on his impressive first place finish at the 81st annual National FFA Convention, where he won the Botany Division. Reagan lives in Winter Haven and is currently a student in the International Baccalaureate program at Bartow High School.

Reagan's research project focused on the extent of potassium's role in plant nutrition. By measuring transpiration rates and sodium-ion concentration in plants, he found that sodium can actually be substituted for potassium in regulating plant transpiration.

Drawn to the issue because of Florida's nutrient-deficient soil, Reagan hopes his research will have meaningful and practical applications for Florida agriculture. Reagan's research and initiative exemplifies how hard work and creativity can reap personal and public benefits.

It also demonstrates the great opportunities and experience that programs like FFA provide for our young people. FFA is an important tool for teaching our children about agriculture and giving them an opportunity to challenge each other to come up with innovative solutions that could have a positive impact on the public. As a former participant in the Florida 4-H program and a member of the FFA, I truly understand and appreciate the importance of these programs, as well as how difficult these competitions are to win.

I applaud Reagan for this significant achievement, and invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

TERRORIST ATTACKS IN ALGERIA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to offer my condolences and deepest sympathies to the citizens of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the families of those who have been killed in recent terrorist attacks in that nation. Just today we have heard that nine security guards were murdered while on duty at an electricity facility near Ziana Mansouriah.

These attacks are a stark and all too common reminder that the Global War on Terrorism is truly worldwide and requires a coordinated and vigilant effort by our Nation and our allies to protect our families and our freedoms. I want to thank the people of Algeria for their efforts and the tremendous cooperation we have shared since the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

I am also constantly reminded of the extraordinary efforts being done by our troops and their families. Their sacrifice is a testament to their courage, their dedication, and their love for our Nation. At this time, our thoughts are with those who have lost their lives in this great struggle against violent extremism and those who continue to stand for our freedoms and for the development of a civil, peaceful society in Algeria for Algerian families to prosper.

WHO ANSWERS TO WOMEN? GENDER AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit into the RECORD, an article expressing why it is important for governments throughout the world to stay committed to achieving gender equality. The article, published by the UN News Service, cites critical information from a newly released report from the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

The report, entitled "Who Answers to Women? Gender and Accountability," alarmed us about the enormous gaps between men and women when it comes to responsibility in official segments of society. Ms. Hanny Cueva-Beteta, Data and Statistics Specialist with the UNIFEM, stated that women's priorities are non-existent when it comes to conflict resolutions and war crimes committed against them are often not prosecuted.

The article poignantly points out that women are outnumbered 4 to 1 in legislatures around the world; almost 2/3 of all unpaid family workers are women; and approximately 1/3 of all women suffer gender-based violence during their lives.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend the UNIFEM for their exceptional and vital research and I urge my colleagues to support efforts to alleviate gender disparities throughout the world.

ACCOUNTABILITY KEY TO MEETING NATIONAL GENDER EQUALITY GOALS, SAYS UN REPORT

20 February 2009—Strengthening accountability for commitments made by governments will be vital to achieving gender equality and women's rights, according to a new report released today by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

"The actions of those in power need to be reviewed and made accountable to women," Hanny Cueva-Beteta, Data and Statistics Specialist with UNIFEM, stressed today at the launch in Monrovia, Liberia, of the agency's flagship publication, *Progress of the World's Women 2008/2009*.

The report, entitled "Who Answers to Women? Gender and Accountability," pointed to vast gaps in accountability between men and women, which lead to weakened

participation of women in the formal sector, according to a news release issued by UNIFEM.

Ms. Cueva-Beteta said that in areas such as conflict mediation, women's priorities are silenced and war crimes committed against them are often not prosecuted.

In both national governments and multi-lateral organizations, accountability systems need to be changed and oriented to answer to women, if commitments to gender equality are to move from rhetoric to results, she stated.

"It is time to move from lip-service to real results," she said, adding that commitments made by governments should be accompanied by funding and planning.

There is still a long way to go in that regard, she noted, given that women are outnumbered 4 to 1 in legislatures around the world; over 60 per cent of all unpaid family workers globally are women; and about one-third of women suffer gender-based violence during their lives.

Also speaking at the launch, Liberia's President, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, highlighted some of achievements made in her country towards women's empowerment. They include the establishment of a special "Criminal Court E," dedicated to gender-based violence crimes with an emphasis on rape, and an empowerment programme, funded by the Nike Foundation, for 1,500 adolescent girls.

There is also the Sirleaf Market Women's Fund, which the President set up to support girls' education and improving markets for women.

Ms. Johnson-Sirleaf thanked UNIFEM for its efforts in getting countries to make greater commitments towards the empowerment of women and implored those at the launch to "join hands at all levels and work together for the enhancement of women as a means of acting towards the development of society as a whole."

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, Pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105;

Requesting Member: Congressman SAM GRAVES

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Projects expected to be included in the FY09 Omnibus Appropriations Act:

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Missouri River Levee System (MRLS) Units L-455 and R 471-460 project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to advance design. Located in the Flood Control account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Blacksnake Creek Feasibility Study project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to initiate design work. Located in section 205 account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Missouri River Degradation, KS

and MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to investigate progressive streambed degradation in the KC reach and other areas of the MO River. Located in the Investigations account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Kansas City Levees, MO and KS project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used for the evaluation of the Metropolitan flood protection system on the MO and KS Rivers in KC. Located in the Investigations account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Line Creek Watershed project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to conduct watershed and floodplain management planning. Located in the Investigations account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Smithville Lake Repairs project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District. The funding would be used to paint emergency, service and water supply gates and address erosion along most of its main body. Located in the Operations and Maintenance account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Interoperable Mobile Data Communications System project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the St. Joseph Police Department located at 501 Faraon Street, St. Joseph, MO. This funding will integrate multiple data systems into one. Located in the COPS account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Synergy Domestic Violence Program in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is Synergy Services Inc located at 400 E. 6th Street, Parkville, MO 64152. This funding will allow Synergy to increase its capacity to serve children who have been impacted by the cycle of violence and allow for psychological assessments, testing, and increased therapy. Located in the BYRNE-OJP account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Community Hospital Association, Inc., Fairfax, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is Community Hospital Association, Inc located at 405 E. Main Po Box 107, Fairfax, MO 64446. The funding would be used to help fund the building of a new hospital that will better serve the two county areas in NW Missouri. Located in the Health Facilities and Services account in HRSA.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the William Jewell College, Liberty, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is William Jewell College located at 500 College Hill, Liberty, MO, 64068. The funding would be used funding to strengthen the interdepartmental undergraduate research program in the life sciences. Located in the FIPSE Higher Education account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Water Transmission Line Construction, City of Plattsburg, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Plattsburg located at

114 W Maple Street, Plattsburg, MO, 64477. PO Box 243, Rock Port, MO, 64482. The funding would be used for the construction of drinking water transmission lines. Located in the STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure projects account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Kansas City Bus Capital Funds, KC, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is the KC Area Transportation Authority located at 1200 E. 18th Street, KC, MO 64108. This funding is for the purchase of new busses. Located in the Busses and Bus Facilities account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the U.S. 59/Alabama Grade Separation Project in St. Joseph, MO in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is the City of St. Joseph's Public Works Department located at 1100 Frederick Ave. St. Joseph, MO 64501. The funding will be used to reduce congestion at US 59 crossing Woods Chapel Road from 1–70 to Valley View. Located in the Interstate Maintenance Discretionary account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Homeless Shelter Renovation, Kansas City, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is Restart Inc. located at 918 E. 9th Street Kansas city, MO 64106. The funding will be used to provide shelter and supportive services to homeless men, women, youth, and families. Located in the Economic Development Initiative account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Expansion of the Hillyard Vocational Technical Center, St. Joseph, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is the St. Joseph, MO School District located at 925 Felix, St. Joseph, MO 64501. The funding will be used to build a science research facility addition to Hillyard Vocational Technical Center. Located in the Economic Development Initiative account.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of [H.R. 1105 Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009]:

Request Member: Congressman DOUG LAMBORN, CO–05.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Colorado Department of Transportation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4201 Arkansas Ave #275/ Denver, CO 80222.

Description of Request: \$652,650 is included in this bill to help accelerate intersection improvements at Fort Carson Gates 5 and 6 as well as safety improvements along SH 115 between these two gates.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Colorado Department of Transportation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4201 Arkansas Ave #275/ Denver, CO 80222.

Description of Request: \$2,280,000 is included in this bill to pay for preliminary and final design for full access to Peterson Air Force Base from Powers Boulevard. Peterson Air Force Base has recently completed improvements to its west gate, which is the main access point into the base from Powers Boulevard. This will address mobility and future congestion at the Powers Boulevard intersection by providing an interchange.

HONORING MR. RAY CLARK

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Ray Clark for his years of service to the Plant City community and to the students at Plant City High School.

Mr. Clark began his tenure teaching agriculture at Plant City High in 1972, before I was even born. He taught agriculture for 36 years at Plant City and retired as the head of the agriculture department.

He has shared his extensive knowledge of agriculture with thousands of students throughout the years and has left a significant mark on Plant City and the agriculture community in the State of Florida.

Mr. Clark has encouraged his students to participate in the FFA organization. Assisted by his leadership, the Plant City FFA chapters have produced 5 National FFA Officers and 17 State FFA Officers.

In addition to his dedication to the students at Plant City, Ray Clark has selflessly devoted countless hours to the community, participating in a variety of organizations—from the Hillsborough County Classroom Teachers Association to the National Wild Turkey Federation to the Florida Cattleman's Association. He is also a former member of the National Guard.

Ray Clark has been an outstanding public servant to our city and the State of Florida. I want to thank him for his service, and invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Ray Clark upon the occasion of his retirement. I wish him a long and happy retirement.

DR. DIETHER H. HAENICKE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the illustrious life of Dr. Diether H. Haenicke, president emeritus and distinguished professor at Western Michigan University.

From 1985 to 1998, Diether served as the University's fifth president, while later serving as interim president for the 2006–07 academic year. During his 13-year presidency, WMU emerged as one of the leading public research institutions in the nation, becoming a pioneer in the life sciences. A lifelong champion of international study, the University's Office of Study Abroad and Department of Foreign Languages flourished during his tenure as well. At

the same time, the University also conducted a successful multi-million dollar capital campaign that allowed for the construction of many major buildings across campus as well as the major renovation of several others.

Shortly after retiring from the presidency in 1998, Diether began writing a popular weekly column in the Kalamazoo Gazette, which continued for over 10 years. The subject matter of his column ranged broadly from reflections on his childhood in Germany and his experiences as a naturalized citizen to commentaries on current events and musings on the absurdities of campus life. Like the man himself, these writings often gave the community a moment of pause.

Not only a successful administrator, but a widely respected intellectual in his own right, Diether came to the United States as a Fulbright lecturer in the early 1960s. Having earned a doctorate, magna cum laude, from the University of Munich in 1962, he was the author of hundreds of published works on such diverse matters as comparative literature, history, academic administration, and international study.

In his so-called retirement, Diether remained actively engaged within the University and also involved himself in countless civic and charitable organizations throughout southwest Michigan.

There truly was no better friend to the University and the greater Kalamazoo community than Diether. And while his intellect, humor, and constant guidance will be sorely missed, perhaps the qualities that will be remembered most were his genuine approachability and astonishing gift for friendship. Throughout his career, thousands were fortunate enough to look to Diether as a friend and mentor—incoming first-year students and Members of Congress alike.

May the Haenicke family find comfort in knowing the far-reaching impact that Diether had upon his community and those who were attracted by the university he built up. American higher education has lost one of the best and so have we all lost a supporter of the greater good.

THE STUDENT PROTECTION ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTMAN. Madam Speaker, on January 28, 2009, I reintroduced the Student Protection Act, a measure aimed at protecting our nation's classrooms from repeat sexual predators within our school systems.

The Student Protection Act requires uniform reporting requirements for eligible school system employees accused of sexual misconduct against a student, consistent with established guidelines for reporting child abuse; it requires a central body in each state to be responsible for receiving and investigating allegations of sexual misconduct by school employees; and it creates a nationwide database of school employees sanctioned by the state for sexual misconduct—thus enabling state, local, and private school officials to ensure offenders remain out of the classroom.

Accounts of teacher sexual misconduct have inundated headlines across our country. In 2004, a study required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 reported that an estimated 4.5 million children are subject to sexual misconduct by a school employee sometime between kindergarten and 12th grade—that's nearly 1 in 10 students that are targets of sexual misconduct during their school career. As far as I'm concerned, that's one too many.

Further, a 2007 seven-month Associated Press investigation found a total of 2,570 educators across the nation were punished for sexual misconduct from 2001–2005, representing about a quarter of all educator misconduct cases in that time period.

More than a dozen states have considered legislation to strengthen laws for screening and reporting of sexual misconduct by educators last year—many of which became law. However, without adopting systematic policies and procedures at the national level all states remain vulnerable when hiring school employees from states with mediocre reporting procedures and lackluster ethical standards. Our classrooms deserve much more than a piecemeal effort that leaves our nation's schools exposed to predators moving from state to state.

Ernie Allen, President and CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children said, "This Act brings long-overdue recognition to the problem of child sexual exploitation in the school system."

It is abundantly clear that the system we have in place has failed our students—repeatedly. Before we read about another teacher assaulting yet another student or another classroom shaken by another breach of trust, now—not later—let us give schools the tools they need to keep repeat sexual offenders from preying on students within the very institutions that should be a safe-haven for our children.

We have a unique opportunity before us to empower educators and parents nationwide and make it crystal clear we will not allow those who would prey on young, vulnerable minds to compromise the integrity of our school system and tarnish an honorable profession. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, ensuring the safety of our children.

IN MEMORY OF BETHEA R. HOOK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on February 17th, Mr. Bethea R. Hook of Lexington County, South Carolina passed away. Mr. Hook was a cherished member of his community, and spent his lifetime in service to his country and his neighbors as a member of the Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church, president of the Church Council, a Sunday School Superintendent, and scout master of Boy Scout Troup No. 356 to name just a few of his many accomplishments. He was a leader in his community as the owner of Hook's Flowers and vital to the establishment of the U.S. Highway 1 Flea Market. He was also an active member and former president of the Woodmen of the World.

He answered the call of his generation and served as a Navy Chief Boatswain's Mate dur-

ing World War II and went on to be an advocate for his fellow veterans as Commander of the American Legion Post No. 7.

At this time, our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Hook's family—including his wife of 62 years, Margie Eargle Hook, his sons, Norman Bethea Hook and Richard Jefferson Hook, his daughter, Myra Darlene Kinard, and his three grandchildren, Tradd Bethea Hook, Ashley Ann Hook, and Richard Tyler Hook.

COMMENDING MR. GARY STILTS

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Gary Stilts, Wappapello Lake Operations Manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Stilts is retiring this week after a long and distinguished career of more than 30 years of federal service. Nearly 28 of those years have been in the service of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Wappapello Lake in the Eighth Congressional District.

During his time at Wappapello, Mr. Stilts has dramatically improved public access to the natural resources offered at the lake, and he has forged key local partnerships that enabled the placement of fishing piers, access points, and a fish cleaning station at the lake. Major flood control improvements and an important transportation infrastructure project have been implemented at Wappapello Lake during his term of service as well.

The remarkable thing about Mr. Stilts has been his ability to make Wappapello Lake a true member of the local community. The lake is important to families, for recreation, and to businesses, for the tourism it draws. Under Mr. Stilts's leadership, Wappapello Lake twice won the Natural Resources Project of the Year Award, in 1999 and again in 2008.

In a district with as many acres of fields, forests and, yes, lakes, as the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri, good stewardship is at the pinnacle of importance. Mr. Stilts has left his mark on Wappapello Lake and the surrounding area by first and foremost being a good steward. His hard work and good advocacy for Wappapello Lake have made it an important fixture on the list of the very best natural resources in our state. I wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for his excellent service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and to the citizens of the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri.

THE STUDENT INTERNET SAFETY ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on January 28, 2009, I introduced the Student Internet Safety Act, legislation that would provide our Nation's schools more leeway in teaching children about the dangers associated with predators on the Internet.

Everyday, children and teens alike rely on the internet for multiple resources. Whether it's

research for a school project, visiting an online social network such as Facebook or Myspace, or checking movie times for a local theater, our Nation's youth remains increasingly active online and it is paramount that they are aware of the potential risks of online predators and know how to stay safe online.

While many parents continue to educate their children about the importance of online safety, this is an important message that our schools should have the ability to reinforce as well. Currently, school districts that receive grants under the Ed Tech Program and the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program from the U.S. Department of Education may use the Federal funds for a wide variety of authorized activities, such as drug and violence prevention activities, establishing and maintaining a school safety hotline, or developing, enhancing, or implementing information technology courses.

The Student Internet Safety Act would expand the list of authorized activities to allow schools to develop and implement programs that promote the safe use of the Internet by students, such as programs that educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with individuals on social networking Web sites and in chat rooms; protect students against online predators, cyberbullying, or unwanted exposure to inappropriate material; or promote involvement by parents in the use of the Internet by their children.

I am encouraged by the support this legislation has received both locally and nationally as well. Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd stated, "All of us must take a proactive action to teach our kids how to stay safe online. This legislation takes important steps to make this happen. Nothing is more important to our communities' future than the safety and well being of our children." In addition, Ernie Allen, President and CEO of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children said, "The internet holds tremendous potential for our Nation's youth. But we must educate young people about how to prevent online victimization so they may have safer experiences online."

Given the vital role the Internet plays in schools across the Nation, the Student Internet Safety Act would give schools the ability to educate their students about staying safe in a rapidly growing online community. We teach our children how to look both ways before crossing the street; we also need to teach them the safety rules for the information superhighway.

I welcome the support of my colleagues and look forward to working together to ensure the safety of our children from the dangers associated with predators on the Internet.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARTHA SCOTT SMITH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this Thursday, February 26th, the Palmetto Society of United Way of the Midlands will be honoring their Humanitarian of the Year Award recipient Martha Scott Smith. Martha is State Director for AT&T—Public Affairs in South Carolina and an extraordinary

community leader. Her accomplishments are many and include being the first Black female to serve as chair of not only the American Red Cross Board but also chair of the South Carolina State Museum Board and chair of the Midlands Technical College Foundation board.

As an advocate for philanthropy throughout her community, Martha is a founding member of Women in Philanthropy, a leading advocate with the United Way, and president of the Columbia Urban League guild.

Martha's positive impact on our community goes back to when she was a middle school teacher and was instrumental in the establishment of a gifted and talented student program for Richland School District 1. She's continued to work on behalf of education as a member of the Board of Visitors of Claflin University and the Allen University board.

These days, I am honored that she has agreed to serve as a member of the Second Congressional District's Minority Advisory Board. Her input and perspective are vital to our work to best represent the people of the Second Congressional District.

Throughout her career and in her personal life, Martha has earned a reputation for decency, hard work, and a passion for fighting for the needs of others. I commend her on this extraordinary honor, and look forward to her continued friendship and counsel.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I wish to make the following disclosure in accordance with the Republican Earmark Transparency Standards requiring Members to place a statement in the Congressional Record prior to a floor vote on a bill that includes earmarks they have requested.

Specifically, H.R. 637, the South Orange County Recycled Water Enhancement Act, which I introduced on January 22, 2009, contains two earmarks as defined under House Rule XXI, clause 9. Both earmarks contained in H.R. 637 authorize appropriations for projects under Title XVI of Public Law 102-575, the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act.

The first project authorized in H.R. 637 is an advanced water treatment plant facility and recycled water system located in the City of San Juan Capistrano. Located in Orange County, California, the City of San Juan Capistrano relies on imported water from the Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay-Delta and the Colorado River to meet much of its water needs. Recognizing the increasing need to provide local water for irrigation, large fields and other non-potable uses, the City plans to construct a water recycling project consisting of four reservoirs, one pump station, and 29 pipelines. The legislation authorizes \$18.5 million of federal appropriations, which sunsets 10 years following the passage of the H.R. 637. The federal cost share shall not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost and no federal funds shall be used for project operation and maintenance.

The second project authorized in H.R. 637 will expand reclaimed water distribution, stor-

age and treatment facilities in the City of San Clemente. The City of San Clemente also relies on imported water to meet some of its needs. In 1991, San Clemente completed construction of a water treatment and reclaimed water facility that produced 2.2 million gallons of reclaimed water per day. The plant could be expanded to produce over 4 million gallons per day. The project would also consist of a two million gallon storage reservoir, a pumping station, retrofit of an existing pumping station at the treatment facility, and pipelines. The legislation authorizes \$5 million of federal appropriations, which sunsets 10 years following the passage of the H.R. 637. The federal cost share shall not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost and no federal funds shall be used for project operation and maintenance.

I certify that neither project has a direct and foreseeable effect on any of my financial interests, nor the financial interests of any member of my family. Consistent with the Republican Conference's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge this request (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF PEACE CORPS WEEK

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, as a returned Peace Corps Volunteer, I am honored to formally recognize the work of the Peace Corps on the 48th Anniversary of its inception and to help kick off National Peace Corps Week. Countries from all over the globe will celebrate past contributions to the international community from the Peace Corps as well as look forward with anticipation to what the future holds for the organization.

During National Peace Corps Week, we salute and honor the men and women of this Nation who have selflessly served abroad as Peace Corps Volunteers, as well as those current Volunteers who continue to carry out the Peace Corps mission: world peace and friendship.

The Peace Corp provides a unique opportunity for Volunteers to travel the world and help some of the most impoverished people in the world while improving oneself. I fondly remember my time as a volunteer in El Salvador after answering President John F. Kennedy's call to service where I built schools and health clinics. The experience meant much to me personally and professionally, the beginning of my lifelong commitment to public service. I returned with a passion for teaching, and quickly put my skills, including fluency in Spanish, to use in Santa Clara County schools. Most importantly, I returned to the United States with a deeper understanding of humanity and a personal commitment to speak on behalf of the marginalized and powerless.

Since President John F. Kennedy's call to service in 1960, over 195,000 people have

served as Peace Corps Volunteers spanning 139 countries. I hope that these numbers can be greatly expanded as a new era of hope and service begins. Today, a renewed call to service has been issued by President Barack Obama challenging Americans from all walks of life to bear the torch of peace and good will that many Americans in the past have carried proudly to other countries.

I am greatly encouraged by President Obama's commitment to expand public service by building upon the Peace Corps and creating innovative programs that inspire Americans to volunteer and serve. In addition, President Obama supports the expansion of the Peace Corps to 16,000 by 2011, the Peace Corps 50th Anniversary. I am in total support of the expansion of this worthy and necessary organization.

Today, I honor the Peace Corps and its brave Volunteers for their service to our Nation and to the international community. For years, the volunteers of the Peace Corps have helped developing nations fulfill their needs for trained men and women, championed the cause of charity and philanthropy, found common ways to address global challenges, and set forth a dialogue of understanding between Americans and locals from other countries. Peace Corps Volunteers set a universal standard for how we are to embrace the realities of an ever-shrinking world.

With a bleak economic outlook and an international community under pressure, the Peace Corps mission is more vital than ever. I look forward to helping President Barack Obama fulfill his promise of renewing America's reputation worldwide and revitalizing America's commitment to service.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID FOSTER

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Mr. David Foster of Grand Haven, Michigan. After 34 years of service, Mr. Foster is set to retire as the Chief Engineer of the Army Corps of exemplary Engineers Lake Michigan Area Office in Grand Haven.

Mr. Foster is an accomplished engineer who has spent most of his career near Lake Michigan. He was born in Muskegon, graduated from Whitehall High School, and received his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University. Dave began his work with the Army Corps of Engineers in 1975 and has served with distinction and honor in Muskegon, Fort Wayne, and Grand Haven.

Throughout his career Dave has played a vital role in supporting Great Lakes shipping, flood control, and clean up through his work with the Army Corps. In Southwest Michigan, residents and businesses have benefited from Dave Foster's effective ability to solve problems and find solutions to difficult situations. On many occasions, residents have praised the work of the Army Corps in beach nourishment and flood control projects, both which are essential for our area. Just last year, commercial shipping in my district ground to a halt as silt clogged the federal shipping channel. It

was through the efforts of Dave Foster and the Lake Michigan Area Office that we were able to open up the St. Joseph Harbor and save hundreds of jobs in our region.

Southwest Michigan is very fortunate Dave Foster stayed close to home. Thousands of people have been impacted by his hard work and commitment to the Army Corps of Engineers. I salute his efforts and thank him for his service as a career federal employee. I wish Dave all the best in his retirement.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Requesting Member: Congressman ADAM H. PUTNAM.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division F—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Department of Education/Funds for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Project Funding Amount: \$476,000—to be confirmed.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hillsborough Community College (HCC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 39 Columbia Drive, Tampa, FL 33606.

Description of Request: Hillsborough Community College submitted a project request for their Veterinary Technology Program. Specifically, the funds requested would complete and refine the large animal program, which includes development of articulation agreements with St. Petersburg College and the school District of Hillsborough County while also acquiring specialty needs equipment. The program currently accommodates 26 students. When HCC completes the program it will eventually be able to accommodate an additional 25 students. HCC has invested over \$590,000 in funding since the program began in 2006–07; the state has provided approximately \$304,000 in facilities construction; and the private sector has donated software at an estimated value of \$4,000.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division F—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009.

Account: Department of Education/Funds for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE).

Project Funding Amount: \$718,000—to be confirmed.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Polk Community College (PCC).

Address of Requesting Entity: 999 Avenue H, N.E., Winter Haven, FL 33881.

Description of Request: Funding for Polk Community College's project request would establish the Center for Advanced Global Technology at Clear Springs, a training and education center of excellence that will: (1) provide degree and training programs to meet Central Florida's critical demand for a highly-skilled technology workforce in the areas of high-tech supply chain management, advanced manufacturing, green construction and

related technologies, (including solar technologies), and information technology; (2) create career pathways into technology industries through partnerships with career academies at the secondary level, and (3) serve as a center for innovation that facilitates public/private collaborations, research and development, and technology transfer opportunities.

Specifically, funds are requested to: (1) establish a degree program in Supply Chain Management including curriculum development and acquiring advanced technological training equipment; (2) establish a Green Technician degree program and a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification training program including curricula development, acquiring lab equipment, and hiring and training staff to pursue this objective; and (3) acquire advanced manufacturing training equipment and technologies applicable to a wide range of industries including solar/photovoltaic power systems.

Community support and commitment to the project is strong. Clear Springs Land Development Co. donated a twenty acre parcel of land valued at approximately two million dollars to Polk Community College for the facility site. Twenty-four million dollars (private donation matched with State funds) was raised towards facility construction. Advanced manufacturing simulation equipment, software, and technical support have been donated (value \$250,000); and initial funds to support scholarships have been secured in order to increase access to the program. Several courses are currently being held at a temporary site.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican earmark guidance, I am submitting the following: in regards to H.R. 1105.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Joshua Tree National Park Visitor's Center

Account: National Park Service, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Twentynine Palms

Address of Requesting Entity: 6136 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms, California 92277

Description of Request: The Joshua Tree National Park Visitors Center annually hosts nearly one and a half million visitors in a cramped, obsolete facility where it is impossible to display the cultural history of the area, provide needed community and informational services, or even provide appropriate information to visitors to the Park. These funds would allow for an improvement and expansion of the Center to provide the space to display the famed Campbell Collection of Native American artifacts, as well as a wide array of other objects of interest to both the visiting public and to researchers.

Amount: \$300,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Joshua Basin Water District Recharge

Account: EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Joshua Basin Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 61750 Chollita Road, Joshua Tree, California 92252

Description of Request: Joshua Basin Water District needs to develop a recharge system to import water from the California State Water Project to avoid overdraft conditions and septic system contamination of the aquifer. This project is an important component of a regional water management plan and over \$2 million has already been committed locally. The system of underground storage facilities would accept and store water from the State Project in years when surpluses are available. There are currently no other recharge projects on going in the Joshua Tree basin.

Amount: \$300,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Water System Infrastructure Improvements

Account: EPA, State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power

Address of Requesting Entity: 41972 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake, California 92315

Description of Request: This project would provide improved water pressure at peak demand periods and improved water quality resulting from the replacement of steel pipes with PVC. Although the City of Big Bear is located in an area prone to wildfires, much of its water supply infrastructure is unable to even meet minimum requirements for fire flow. Engineering studies have identified 181,800 feet of pipeline that must be replaced to meet current standards.

Amount: \$500,000.

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Desert Hot Springs

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Mission Springs Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 66575 2nd Street, Desert Hot Springs, California 92240

Description of Request: This project will construct a municipal wastewater collection and treatment system that will eliminate individual wastewater disposal systems that overlie the Mission Creek and Desert Hot Springs aquifers. To accomplish this, the district needs to replace roughly 4000 individual sewage disposal systems that lie in a very concentrated area over the primary inflow of the groundwater that supplies nearly 400,000 people.

Amount: \$478,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Hi-Desert Wastewater Collection and Reuse Account: Bureau of Reclamation, Water and Related Resources

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Hi-Desert Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 55439 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Description of Request: The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner. The Hi-Desert Wastewater Collection and Reuse Facility will protect the groundwater quality in the area and provide reclaimed

water to be used directly for irrigation and commercial purposes that are normally supplied by potable water. Using reclaimed water to meet non-potable demand will off set the demands for potable water.

Amount: \$1,000,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Seven Oaks Water Quality and Conservation

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 East Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, California 92408

Description of Request: The rains of the winter of 2005 demonstrated beyond question that water conservation at Seven Oaks Dam can provide a major supplemental source of water for an increasingly water starved region. Unfortunately, by holding water behind the dam the water is degraded so far as to be unusable. Work is being done to determine the appropriate method to improve water quality while continuing to conserve behind the dam.

Amount: \$1,500,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS.

Project Name: Santa Ana River and Tributaries

Account: Army Corps of Engineers, General Investigations

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Yucaipa

Address of Requesting Entity: 34272 Yucaipa Boulevard, Yucaipa, California 92399

Description of Request: This project will study the feasibility of a flood control project in Yucaipa, California. This community is located just north of Interstate-10, a major transportation hub that is threatened by 100-year level flooding. The study will look at the viability of detention basins, flood channels, and habitat to reduce the threat downstream.

Amount: \$268,000

Requesting Member: Congressman JERRY LEWIS

H.R. 1105 The Omnibus Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009

Project Name: Space Radiation Health Research Program

Account: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Loma Linda University Medical Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 11175 Campos Street, Loma Linda, CA 92354

Description of Request: Provide \$2,800,000.00 to conduct investigations that clarify the space environment and how it will affect personnel and equipment. Funding will continue the implementation of the radioisotope laboratory for handling radioisotopes and tagging selected molecules for PET scanning and molecular imaging. This project will also enhance on-going core research activities including radiation protection, radioprotectants, and other site specific protection, immune interactions, nanodosimetry to explore radiation interactions on the DNA level, and other on-going joint research initiatives. This research will give support for on-going core activities in both the histology laboratory and in the imaging laboratories.

THE SENIORS' TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on January 27, 2009, I introduced H.R. 728, the Seniors' Tax Simplification Act, legislation that would allow our nation's senior citizens to file their federal income taxes on a new and simplified Form 1040S. This new form would capture sources of income commonly reported by seniors, including social security benefits, distributions from qualified retirement plans, annuities or other deferred payment arrangements, interest and dividends, and capital gains and losses.

Currently, individuals who are age 65 or over are prohibited from using Form 1040EZ. Seniors that do not qualify for the shorter Form 1040A, fill out a longer, more complicated Form 1040 that deals with schedules, and includes much that is simply not pertinent to seniors' taxable situations.

In 2004, the House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation by a recorded vote to create Form 1040S. However, the Senate failed to consider the legislation and the IRS has since halted their efforts to develop such a form even though their estimates showed that as many as 11 million seniors could benefit from such a simplified tax form in the first year it is made available.

The U.S. Census Bureau projects in 2030, when all of the baby boomers will be 65 and over, that nearly one in five U.S. residents is expected to be 65 and older. This age group is projected to increase to 88.5 million in 2050, more than doubling the number in 2008, which was 38.7 million.

Further, in Florida alone, the 65 and over population represent over 3.3 million residents—that's 17.4 percent of the state's total population. Recent estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau project this population will only continue to grow. By 2025, Florida's 65 and over population is projected to reach close to 5.5 million residents. This represents a 107.3 percent increase from 1995 to 2025.

The 60 Plus Association has also endorsed this important legislation stating the "senior-friendly proposal would dramatically simplify the federal income tax filing process for millions of our nation's senior citizens."

It is clear that millions stand to benefit from the Seniors' Tax Simplification Act, and countless hours of time and energy could be saved not fretting over complex and often confusing tax forms. I encourage my colleagues to support our nation's seniors and cosponsor this long overdue legislation.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose

of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold closed hearings on Afghanistan and Pakistan, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

SVC-217

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine an update on the latest global warming science.

SD-406

Finance

To hold hearings to examine scoring health care reform, focusing on Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) budget options.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine ensuring television carriage in the digital age.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Aging

Business meeting to consider committee's rules of procedure for the 111th Congress; to be followed by a hearing to examine securing retirement in a volatile economy.

SD-106

2 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David S. Kris, of Maryland, and Dawn Elizabeth Johnsen, of Indiana, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be Chairman and Commissioner of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 26

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine strategic options for the way ahead in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's Homeowner Affordability and Stability Plan.

SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine consumer protection and the credit crisis.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine integrative care, focusing on a pathway to a healthier nation.

SD-430

Indian Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine youth suicide in Indian country. SD-628	Department of Energy (DOE) programs and through other innovative federal energy efficiency policies and programs. SD-366	MARCH 5 9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentations of veterans' service organizations. SD-106
Judiciary Organizational business meeting to consider committee's rules of procedure for the 111th Congress; S. 386, to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to federal assistance and relief programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds, S. 49, to help Federal prosecutors and investigators combat public corruption by strengthening and clarifying the law, S. 146, to amend the Federal antitrust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads, and the nominations of David W. Ogden, of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Elena Kagan, of Massachusetts, to be Solicitor General of the United States, and Thomas John Perrelli, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice. SD-226	Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine engaging with Muslim communities around the world. SD-419 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine protecting public and animal health, focusing on homeland security and the federal veterinarian workforce. SD-342	MARCH 10 9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine budget for veterans programs for fiscal year 2010. SR-418
Veterans' Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine caring for veterans in rural areas. SR-418	Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community. SH-219	MARCH 12 9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings to examine legislative presentations of veterans' service organizations. SD-106
Joint Economic Committee To hold hearings to examine restoring the economy, focusing on strategy for short-term and long-term change. SD-106	MARCH 3 9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine acquisition of major weapons systems by the Department of Defense. SH-216	MARCH 18 9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. 334, Cannon Building
2:30 p.m. Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine recommendations for reducing energy consumption in buildings through improved implementation of authorized	MARCH 4 2:30 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Investigations Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine tax haven banks and United States tax compliance, focusing on obtaining names of United States clients with Swiss Accounts. SD-342	MARCH 25 9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine State-of-the-Art information technology (IT) solutions for Veterans' Affairs benefits delivery. SR-418